Hides and Skin sponsored by the Ministry of Commerce and conducted by the Central Leather Research Institute was on formulation of a national policy on slaughter of animals.

(b) The recommendation has been communicated to the State Governments as the subject matter is under the purview of the States.

Screening of 'Tamas' Serial

1727. SHRI RAOOF VALIULLAH: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the controversy on the screening of T.V. serial 'Tamas' by Doordarshan and whether Government have received any representations for and against its screening;

(b) what are the reasons for telecasting such a sensitive serial;

(c) whether Government propose to review the norms for clearing serials by Doordarshan and whether the clearance by the present Committee is final in all respects; and

(d) whether members of the Subcommittee on media of the National Integration Council watched the serial and whether they recommended the serial 'Tamas' for telecasting?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI H. K. L. BHAGAT): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The serial was considered to be carrying a powerful message to the people to guard against communalism and anti-social elements which ferment divisive forces in our society.

(c) The existing procedures for clearing serials are considered adequate.

(d) The film was shown to some members of the National Integration Council, before its telecast.

Commercial Service from Doordarshan Kendra, Ahmedabad

1728. SHRI RAOOF VALIULLAH*
SHRI MIRZA IRSHADBAIG:

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether commercial service has commenced from Doordarshan Kendra, Ahmedabad and if so, when and what are the capacities available for regional service in Gujarat;

(b) the total income earned so far and estimated income to be earned in the next year from the advertisements and what is the rate of advertisements;

(c) the States which are to get regional service by the end of the current plan period and what are the criteria for the same; and

(d) whether any UHF band is being utilised for telecasting in the country; if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI H. K. L. BHAGAT): The Commercial Service commenced from Doordarshan Kendra, Ahmedabad with effect from 1st January, 1988. According to the approved arrangements, the regional service in Gujarat is scheduled to be introduced after launching and operationalisation of INSAT-II.

(b) Gross revenue earned by Doordarshan from Commercial advertisements was Rs. 116.72 crores approximately upto January 1988 during the financial year 1987-88 for the entire TV network. Similar revenue to be earned by Doordarshan during 1988-89 has been estimated at Rs. 142 crores. The aproved rate structure of spot booking for cemmercial advertisement on Doordarshan is given in the attached statement. (*See* Appendix CXLV, Annexure No. 69).